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Howard Langfitt Farm Families of the Week

5-29-1959

Townsend, Henry E. Script

Howard Langfitt

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W L B T

CONTINUITY

[Townsend, Henry E.]

FOR Farm Family of the Week

TIME 12:25-1:00 p.m.

BY Howard Langfitt

DATE Fri, May 29, 1959

VIDEO

AUDIO

CAMERA ON LANGFITT

SLIDE FARM-1
HOUSE

SLIDE FARM-2
HOUSE

I WANT TO SAY IN THE VERY BEGINNING THAT I AM DEEPLY GRATEFUL TO RANKIN COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENT, ROBERT S. BARKER, FOR HIS VERY WONDERFUL HELP IN SELECTING THE FAMILY WHICH WE SALUTE TODAY AND FOR GOING WITH ME TO THEIR FARM TO HELP ME OBTAIN THE STORY WHICH I AM NOW GOING TO TELL. THIS IS THE STORY OF MR. AND MRS. HENRY E. TOWNSEND AND THEIR THREE CHILDREN WHO LIVE IN THE CONCORD CHURCH COMMUNITY OF RANKIN COUNTY, ABOUT NINE MILES SOUTH OF PELAHATCHIE, MISSISSIPPI. HENRY TOWNSEND GREW UP ON A FARM ABOUT 8 MILES AWAY IN THE LODEBAR CHURCH COMMUNITY. THEIR LOVELY HOME IS ON LAND THAT FORMERLY BELONGED TO MRS. TOWNSEND'S GRANDFATHER. BOTH HENRY AND HIS LOVELY WIFE ATTENDED SCHOOL AT CROSSROADS WHERE THEY FIRST MET AT A 4-H CLUB PICNIC. THEY WERE MARRIED IN 1943 AFTER GRADUATION FROM HIGH SCHOOL. HENRY FARMED WITH HIS FATHER FOR ABOUT A YEAR AND THEN WENT INTO THE NAVY WHERE HE SERVED FOR TWO YEARS. AFTER HIS DISCHARGE THEY BOUGHT 200 ACRES OF THEIR PRESENT 280 ACRE FARM AND MOVED ONTO IT IN MAY OF 1946. THEY TORE DOWN THEIR OLD HOME FOUR YEARS AGO AND MOVED IN WITH HENRY'S FATHER UNTIL THEY COMPLETED THIS NEW HOUSE, WHICH THEY LIVE IN

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-3
CATTLE

SLIDE FARM-4
DAIRY BARN

SLIDE FARM-5
BARN

SLIDE FARM-6
COWS

NOW. HENRY STARTED FARMING RAISING ROW CROPS BEEF CATTLE AND HOGS. HE HAS NEVER RAISED ANY COTTON. AFTER RAISING CORN AND BEEF FOR A YEAR HE STARTED DAIRYING. HENRY SAYS HE STARTED DAIRYING BECAUSE HIS PASTOR, REVEREND WAYNE ALLISTON SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE A GOOD ENTERPRISE FOR HIS FARM. HENRY SAYS HE LIKED THE ADVICE SO HE STARTED MAKING PREPERATIONS TO GET INTO THE DAIRY BUSINESS. THAT WAS IN JULY AND HE SHIPPED HIS FIRST MILK IN SEPTEMBER OF THAT SAME YEAR. AT THAT TIME HE BUILT THE BASIC BARN UNIT OF HIS PRESENT SETUP AND HAS ADDED TO HIS FACILITIES AS HIS HERD HAS GROWN. HENRY RECALLS THAT HE KEPT A FEW HEIFERS THAT HAD A LITTLE JERSEY IN THEM WHEN HE SOLD HIS BEEF HERD AND THEN BOUGHT 13 JERSEY HEIFERS AT \$100 EACH, ALL FROM ONE MAN'S HERD, AND THAT'S WHAT HE STARTED WITH. HE RECALLS THAT AT THE TIME PEOPLE THOUGHT HE WAS CRAZY TO PAY THAT MUCH FOR COWS. HENRY BOUGHT TWO OR THREE COWS A YEAR UNTIL TWO YEARS AGO. SINCE THAT TIME HIS GROWTH HAS BEEN ENTIRELY FROM SAVING HIS BEST HEIFERS FOR HERD REPLACEMENT. HENRY STARTED WITH ABOUT 18 HEAD OF CATTLE AND TODAY HE HAS 85 MILK COWS. HE'S MILKING 55 RIGHT NOW AND HAS 14 HEAVY SPRINGERS

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
SLIDE <u>FARM-8 8</u> COWS	THAT WILL BE COMING INTO THE BARN MOST ANY DAY. HENRY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE 80 COWS IN THE BARN ALL THE TIME AND THEN HE WILL CONSIDER HE IS AT HIS MAXIMUM. HERD PRODUCTION LAST YEAR AVERAGED ABOUT 8,000 POUNDS OF MILK PER COW. SIX YEARS AGO IT WAS ABOUT HALF THAT MUCH. HE ATTRIBUTES HIS INCREASE TO BETTER PASTURES, BETTER BREEDING AND BETTER MANAGEMENT. HE HAS USED SOME ARTIFICIAL BREEDING BUT HAS A GOOD GURNSEY XJERSEY AND HOLSTEIN BULL. OVER HALF OS HIS HERD IS EITHER GURNSEY OR GUERNSEY-JERSEY CROSS.
SLIDE <u>FARM -7</u> COWS	WHEN HENRY TOWNSEND STARTED DAIRYING HE HAD TWO PORTABLE MILKERS AND HE OPERATED WITH THAT KIND OF SETUP UNTIL TWO WEEKS AGO WHEN HE INSTALLED A PIPELINE MILKER SYSTEM TO CARRY THE MILK FROM THE COW'S UDDER TO STORAGE IN THIS MOST MODERN
SLIDE <u>FARM-9</u> DAIRY BARN	OF ALL UNITS....A BULK TANK. HENRY SAID HIS BACTERIA COUNT BEFORE THE BULK TANK WAS 3,000 ANI IT'S HARD TO BRING THAT DOWN ANYMORE. HIS BUTTERFAT HAS ALSO BEEN RUNNING FROM 4.1 TO 4.4.
SLIDE <u>FARM-10</u> BULK TANK	RIGHT NOW HENRY TOWNSEND HAS 21 HEIFER CALVES FOR HERD REPLACEMENT AND BELIEVE ME THEY ARE IN AS FINE SHAPE AS ANY I'VE SEEN. THESE CALVES ARE ALL OUT OF HIS HIGHEST PRODUCING COWS. HE HOPES TO CONTINUE TO IMPROVE HIS HARD AND WOULD
SLIDE <u>FARM-11</u> CALVES	

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO	AUDIO
SLIDE <u>FARM-12</u> PASTURE	LIKE EVENTUALLY TO HAVE A 12,000 POUND PER COW YEARLY AVERAGE. THEN HE'LL BE SATISFIED WITH HIS DAIRY PROGRAM. PERMANENT PASTURE CONSISTS OF 120 ACRES IN DALLIS AND BERMUDA GRASS, WHITE DUTCH CLOVER AND FESCUE. HE TESTS HIS SOIL AND FERTILIZES HEAVY. HE LIMES HIS PASTURES AND CLIPS THEM FOR WEED CONTROL. GRAZING IS DIVIDED UP INTO FIVE DIFFERENT PASTURE AREAS AND HENRY ROTATES HIS GRAZING FOR MAXIMUM RETURNS. FOR
SLIDE <u>FARM-13</u> RAKING HAY	TEMPORARY GRAZING HE HAS 80-90 ACRES OF OATS AND RYE GRASS. HE GRAZES IT ALL AND TAKES THE CATTLE OFF IN MARCH FROM 35-40 ACRES OF IT WHICH HE CARRIES ON FOR HAY AND HE GRAZES THE REST
SLIDE <u>FARM-14</u> RYE GRASS	ALL THE WAY DOWN. HE SOD SEEDS 30-40 ACRES OF OATS AND RYE GRASS IN HIS PERMANENT PASTURES. WHILE HENRY TOWNSEND FEEDS HIS CATTLE IN THE
SLIDE <u>FARM-15</u> MEN & HAY	BARN AN 18% DAIRY RATION OF CRUSHED CORN, SOYBEAN AND COTTON SEED MEAL AND SUPPLEMENT, HE OPERATES ON THE THEORY THAT IF YOU HAVE PLENTY OF GOOD GRAZING YOU CAN GET BY ON MOST ANYTHING. IF YOU DON'T HAVE THAT GRAZING YOU CAN EMPTY THE FEED SACK IN HER TROUGH AND YOU WON'T GET ALL HER MILK. EACH YEAR HENRY PUTS UP TWO TO THREE THOUSAND BALES OF OATS AND RYE GRASS AND LESPEDEZA HAY. HE AND HIS FATHER, SHOWN HERE

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-16
HAY BARN

SLIDE FARM-17
SILO

SLIDE FARM-18
GARDEN

SLIDE FARM-19
FREEZER

WITH HIM, AND HIS BROTHER, BOTH OF WHOM LIVE CLOSE BY, DO MUCH OF THEIR WORK TOGETHER. THEY OWN EQUIPMENT TOGETHER IN SOME INSTANCES AND WHEREVER WORK IS NEEDED THEY ALL DO IT. HAY IS STORED IN THIS COMBINATION HAY STORAGE AND LOAFING BARN AND IT IS FED FREE CHOICE DURING THE WINTER MONTHS. HENRY ALSO HAS A SILAGE PROGRAM AND THE AMOUNT OF HAY HE PUTS UP DEPENDS ON THE AMOUNT OF SILAGE HE HAS. HE PLANTS CORN OR SORGHUM ON SOME OF HIS OAT LAND AND PEARL MILLET OR SUDAN ON THE REST FOR TEMPORARY SUMMER GRAZING. HENRY HAS A 400 TON TRNCH SILO WHICH HE RE-WORKS AND FILLS ~~KAENXXEAK~~ ABOUT EVERY OTHER YEAR. HE HAS USED SILAGE FOR FIVE YEARS. HE HAULS IT TO TH TROUGH AND FEEDS IT DURING THE WINTER OR WHEN GRAZING IS SHORT. HE PUTS BOTH CORN AND SORGHUM IN THE TRENCH. HENRY TOWNSEND ALSO HAS ABOUT 30 ACRES IN PINE TIMBER. WATER FOR THE CATTLE IS SUPPLIED FROM A NUMBER OF STOCKPONDS AND TWO CREEKS. SO MUCH FOR THE FARM PROGRAM, NOW LET'S LOOK BRIEFLY AT THE HOME MAKING PROGRAM OF MRS. TOWNSEND. THE GARDEN IS ABOUT 3 ACRES COUNTING THE PATCHES AND SOME OF IT IS YEAR ROUND. FROM HER GARDEN AND FRUIT AND MEAT SUPPLY SHE EACH YEAR FREEZES ABOUT 1,800

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

SLIDE FARM-20
KITCHEN

SLIDE FARM-21
FLOWERS

SLIDE FARM-22
WOMAN AT PIANO

SLIDE FARM-23
GIRL

SLIDE FARM-24
HORSES

POUNDS OF FOOD IN THE FAMILY FREEZER. THEN SHE PUTS UP ABOUT ANOTHER 200 QUARTS OF FOOD IN JARS. SUCH THINGS AS PICKLES, JAMS AND JELLIES, JUICES AND SO FORTH. MRS. TOWNSEND LOVES TO COOK AND SHE IS A GOOD ONE. SHE SAYS THIS IS THE FIRST YEAR THEY HAVE LIVED BY THEMSELVES SINCE THEY MARRIED. THAT THEY HAVE ALWAYS HAD SOMEONE LIVING WITH THEM. THEIR HOME IS KNOWN AS THE COMMUNITY CENTER IN THAT NEIGHBORHOOD. SHE SAYS HER AUTOMATIC WABHER AND HER MOTHER-IN-LAW ARE TWO THINGS SHE CAN'T DO WITHOUT. SHE ALSO LIKES FLOWERS AND SHRUBBERY. SHE HAS DONE A BEAUTIFUL JOB OF LANDSCAPING AROUND THEIR HOME HOWEVER, HER GREATEST LOVE IS IN LOOKING AFTER HER CHILDREN.....12 YEAR OLD EUGENE.....8 YEAR OLD FREDDIE AND 3 YEAR OLD JOYCE. SHE ALSO LIKES TO PLAY THE PIANO IN HER SPARE TIME AND SHE HAS A VERY CHARMING PARTNER IN THIS PASSTIME. A PARTNER WHO REALLY PUTS HER HEART INTO THE PROJECT. THAT PARTNER IS THREE YEAR OLD JOYCE WHO LOVES TO SING WHILE HER MOTHER PLAYS THE FAMILY PIANO.....AND BELIVE ME SHE REALLY PUTS HER HEART INTO IT. THE BOYS, EUGENE AND FREDDIE, WHETHER FOR WORK OR PLEASURE, LOVE TO RIDE THEIR HORSES. EUGENE IS A 4-H CLUB MEMBER AND WILL BE

W L B T

CONTINUITY

FOR _____

TIME _____

BY _____

DATE _____

VIDEO

AUDIO

CAMERA ON FAMILY

IN THE EIGHTH GRADE NEXT YEAR. HE OPERATES THE TRACTOR AND IS THE NUMBER ONE MILK HAND. FREDDI AND EUGENE BOTH LIKE TO PLAY BASKETBALL. FREDDIE FEEDS THE CALVES. HENRY AND THE BOYS DO THE MILKING AND MRS. TOWNSEND SAYS SHE CARRIES COFFEE TO THEM IN THE BARN. THE TOWNSEND FAMILY BELONGS TO THE CONCORD BAPTIST CHURCH WHERE BOTH HENRY AND HIS LOVELY WIFE TEACH IN THE SUNDAY SCHOOL. MRS. TOWNSEND HAS THE JUNIOR IN TRAINING UNION AND THE ~~MARK~~ NURSERY CLASS IN SUNDAY SCHOOL. THEY BELONG TO THE P.T.A. WHERE HENRY IS CHAIRMAN OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE AND MRS. TOWNSEND IS ON THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE. THEY BELONG TO THE FARM BUREAU, THE MISSISSIPPI MILK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION AND HENRY IS A DIRECTOR OF THE CITIZENS COUNCIL. THIS IS A WONDERFUL STORY OF A WONDERFUL FAMILY AND NOW I WANT YOU TO MEET THEM.

1. WHAT SHAPE LAND IN WHEN BOUGHT?
2. HAVE YOU CLEARED ANY LAND?
3. WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES FOR FUTURE?